

THE MOEBIUS TWIST

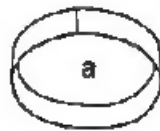
The Moebius strip is a geometric curiosity. An ordinary square piece of paper has four edges and two surfaces - the top and the bottom. But the Moebius strip has only one edge and one surface. It was discovered by a German mathematician and astronomer Augustus Moebius, during the last century.



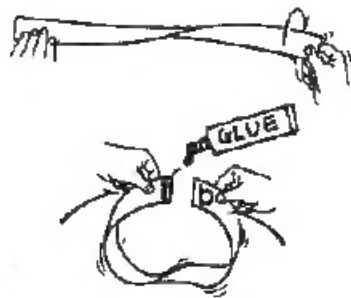
1. Take a full sheet of newspaper and cut three strips 5 cm. wide and about 80 cm. long.



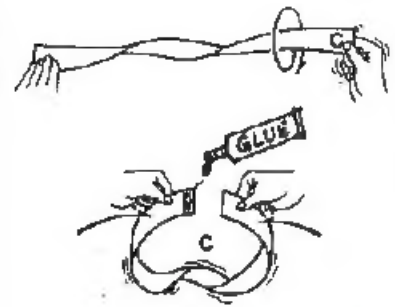
2. Label the strips a, b, and c.



3. Take strip a and glue the ends together, so as to make a circular loop.



4. Give strip b half a turn (180 degree) before gluing the ends together to make a loop.



5. Give the last strip c a full turn (360 degrees) before gluing the ends together to make a loop.



6. Now, give the three loops to three different friends. The loops look almost the same. But when your friends ..



7. cut them along the middle line of each loop they will be in for a great surprise.



8. The first loop a will get divided into two separate loops of paper.



9. Loop b will become a single loop whose length will be double that of the original loop.



10. However, it is the third loop c which will surprise you the most. It will become two loops which are linked together.